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# Richard Furman Society sets robust pace in unrestricted giving

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# Furman campaign

## Campaign's success a direct result of strong volunteer leadership

There is a palpable feeling of excitement in the air at Furman. Beyond the extraordinary strides made in recent years and the achievements of its faculty and students, Furman has benefited tremendously from the support and generosity of countless volunteers who have given of their time, talents and resources to shape the course of the university for years to come.

Through their support of the Forever Furman campaign, alumni and friends have provided Furman students with exceptional new opportunities to learn and to grow. Since the beginning of the campaign in 1996, the leadership of trustees Alester G. Furman III, Tom Hartness, Bill Timmons '49, Gordon Herring '65, Neel Hipp '73, Mary Peace Sterling, John Cothran '54, Leigha Rinker and many others has helped to add outstanding academic and athletic facilities to the campus landscape, create and expand engaged learning opportunities, and endow a host of scholarships and professorships.

As the campaign nears its closing date

FOREVER



FURMAN

*A Comprehensive Campaign*

of December 31, 2002, we salute the many volunteers who have brought Furman to a new level of achievement and expectation — and who have helped to raise approximately \$190 million during the course of the fund drive, which began its public phase in 1999. When you read of the accomplishments of a student, or of a faculty member whose work changes lives for the better, or of a graduate who has made a significant mark on the world, remember that their efforts began with the help of individuals whose appreciation for and loyalty to Furman were matched by their generosity.

Thousands of people, each with their own reasons for supporting Furman, have come forward during the campaign to demonstrate their love for the university.

Their efforts, and those of the people who dedicate their lives to teaching, learning and service, define Furman University.

The Forever Furman campaign has helped the university bolster its financial strength, refurbish the campus infrastructure, and establish exciting new priorities for the future. Furman has closed the gap between its aspirations and its ability to support them — and created many new opportunities for even bolder thinking.

Immediate needs remain to be met, particularly for the expansion of the James B. Duke Library, the completion of the Bryan Center for Military Science, and the construction of Younts Conference Center. Yet as the campaign ends, its success leads us to applaud and to celebrate the beneficence of alumni and friends.

We acknowledge their generosity, we commit ourselves to honor the trust they place in us, and we call on others to join them.

— Don Lineback

*Vice President for Development*

## Richard Furman Society sets robust pace in unrestricted giving

One of the major success stories of the Forever Furman campaign has been the generous support from alumni and friends for the Furman Fund gift societies. In particular, the top upper-level gift society — the Richard Furman Society (for donors of \$10,000 and more in unrestricted gifts) — has grown significantly in recent years.

Increasing the membership in the university's gift societies was a key campaign objective because of their value in providing unrestricted support, which is then allocated to take advantage of new opportunities, fill strategic needs and provide scholarships.

The Richard Furman Society, which began with 10 members in 1993-94, has been the pacesetter among the societies. By the end of the 2001-02 academic year, the RFS had increased to 77 members who together made unrestricted gifts to Furman

totaling \$783,771. This figure is equivalent to the income that would be generated by \$15 million in endowment. The recent success of the Richard Furman Society is directly attributable to the dedicated leadership of Jim '64 and Carol Nichols Ney '67, co-chairs of the society for three years now.

The foundation for the upper-level gift societies is the Presidents Club, for donors of \$1,000 to \$2,499. Chaired by George Linney '65, the Presidents Club has been reorganized this year to build an even stronger donor base. Regional committees have been established in Atlanta, Ga., Charlotte, N.C., Columbia, S.C., and Greenville to identify and cultivate prospects.

In addition, many alumni have reached their current gift society membership level by taking advantage of the matching gift

program at their place of employment. This is a wonderful way to leverage your financial support for Furman. To learn more about your employer's matching gifts program, e-mail [lilliann.hall@furman.edu](mailto:lilliann.hall@furman.edu) or call 1-800-787-7534.

The Richard Furman Society has set a robust pace. By joining the RFS or any of the other leading gift societies — Founders Circle (\$5,000 to \$9,999), Trustees Circle (\$2,500 to \$4,999) or Presidents Club — you can help Furman continue to make great things happen today!

— Jane Dungan

*Associate Director, Major Gifts*

For more information, visit the Web at [www.furman.edu/giving](http://www.furman.edu/giving) and click on the Gift Societies link.